

MODERN CREED FOR THE CHURCH

**We belong to God,
Creator of all that is and all that is to come,
Abundant provider of the gifts in this life
And the gifts in our own hearts.
It is God alone who gives life,
Who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.**

**We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal,
To show us a new way of living,
With love and trust and courage, with joy and generosity.
In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life.
He was crucified and buried;
Yet God raised him from death,
And he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.**

**We live by that Holy Spirit,
And entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment.
As members of the church, the Body of Christ,
We devote ourselves to lives of love,
Rejoicing in the power of forgiveness,
The reality of resurrection,
And the mystery of eternal life. Amen.**

HYMN OF GOING FORTH

"Be Doers of the Word of God"

(Sung to the tune "I Sing the Mighty Power of God")

Be doers of the word of God,
Not simply those who hear.
Be ones who look into God's word,
Obey, and persevere.
Be quick to listen, slow to speak,
And slow to anger, too.
Put wrath aside; instead, be meek
And let God work in you.

Religion that is undefiled,
Religion that is pure
Will reach to help the orphaned child
And welcome all the poor.
If people come here poorly dressed,
To judge them is a sin.
The rich aren't better than the rest;
God welcomes poor ones in.

O Christ, you save us by God's grace
From having to obey.
Then freed to love, we can embrace
A life that seeks your way.
May we be doers of the word,
May faith shine through our deeds;
And as we seek to trust in God,
May ethics follow creeds.